



WDM ENews

March 2014

From The City Manager



It may not feel like we are getting closer to Spring but believe it or not, we are getting there. And with the progression of Spring, there are several exciting things being put in motion for the City. First, the City's operating and capital improvement budget is well on its way for the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year. Within this budget the City Council took major steps towards their vision and goals while maintaining the current property tax levy.

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Highlights from the FY15 Budget include the opening of 13 positions across the organization to provide staffing for the Fire Department Station 19, additional dispatchers for the regional WESTCOM, additional staff for departments including development services Information Technology, Police and Parks . Additionally, within the Capital Improvement Plan for this year there is funding for the Alice's Road/105th Street Interchange on Interstate 80, renovation of the former Wright Tree Service facility at 6th and Walnut for the relocation of the Human Services Department, funding for the Emerald Ash Borer program, and funding for our portion of a join animal shelter.

Next on the Spring Agenda includes many ways for citizens to engage. The WDM Magazines will be in homes soon including the Spring/Summer Parks and Recreation Guide and various other program information. Additionally, the Police and Fire Departments will be offering their Citizen Academies to interested citizens. Each academy occurs once a week for 9 or 12 weeks depending on the academy, and offers education and hands-on training. The programs allow citizens to learn about our public safety operations as well as other personal safety education.

As an organization, we continue to focus our efforts on the 2013-2018 Mayor and Council Vision and Goals making sure that our programs and activities promote exceptional stewardship of community resources, innovative and creative service, a safe community, and a leader in providing infrastructure, for economic development and quality of life.

Community Highlights

Have you liked us on Facebook or Twitter?

Look [here](#) for all the City pages to receive updates and information .

Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization Asking for Ideas

The Des Moines MPO is starting the development of its next long-range transportation plan, Mobilizing Tomorrow. The plan will serve as the federally required long-range plan for the region.... Read [more](#).

WDM Aquatic Center Passes are Now Available at Discounted Rate!

Season passes for the WDM Aquatic Centers are on sale now! Purchase your pass now through March 31st to receive a 10% discount. Read [more](#).

Pet Owners– On Your Marks!

The [WestPet](#) is now accepting license renewals for pets within the City. Pet licenses are good for one year and required for all pets within the City limits.

2014 Dog Park Permits are Now Available!

[The Annual Dog Park Permits are now on Sale](#). Click here for more information and forms for your pooch.



[WDM Magazine:](#)

Spring Issue Early Release

In efforts to provide programming information earlier, the Spring Issue will be released in mid-March!



[In the works.....](#)

- Congratulations to Lisa Remy, selected as the new Superintendent of West Des Moines Schools
- FBL Financial Group was in the news for their successful 4th Quarter
- West Des Moines DMACC Campus got a visit from CSI and Mythbusters!



Department Spotlight: West Des Moines Fire Department

West Des Moines Fire Department 's 11th annual Citizens Fire Academy

The West Des Moines Fire Department will be hosting the 11th Annual Citizens Fire Academy (CFA) this spring starting on Monday, March 24th 2014. The class meets once a week from 6:30pm to 9:30pm and two Saturday's, May 10th & 17th, at WDMFD Station 17, 1401 Railroad Avenue.

During this 9 week program, participants will be taught fire safety and prevention, firefighting tactics and strategies, fire investigation, fire behavior, and many other related topics. The knowledge you will gain from the classroom will be extensive; however, this program will not be just a classroom lecture, but an interactive, hands on, fire academy that will allow participants of our community to experience what firefighter's experience. Participants will take part in training evolutions such as vehicle extrication, high angle rope rescue, vehicle fires, searching a room for a trapped victim, live structure fire, learn to drive a fire truck, and much more. This academy will provide participants with invaluable information that they can bring back to their home or work place, such as fire extinguisher training, home and work fire safety tips to provide a more safety conscience environment for everyone in our community.

The cost of the class is \$20. Each participant of the Citizens Fire Academy will receive a CFA T-shirt, photo, and an opportunity to take part in ride along with a working shift. Class size is limited to 16 participants.

For further information, contact Corry Dolbeer @ 222-3423 or corry.dolbeer@wdm.iowa.gov

Please visit our web page and Facebook page for further information and application packet.

<http://www.wdm.iowa.gov/Index.aspx?page=519> or <https://www.facebook.com/WDMFD.CFA>



WDM Human Services Department

Tax Assistance

AARP is providing free tax preparation services at West Des Moines Human Services on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays through April 14th for low-income households. Call 222-3660 to make an appointment.

Health Insurance Information

An outreach worker from **Iowans for Social and Economic Development (ISED)** is on hand at West Des Moines Human Services on Mondays and Tuesdays through March to help individuals understand the Affordable Care Act. Please call 222-3660 or stop into our office at 318 5th Street to learn more.

LIHEAP Ends April 30th

The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a federal social services program created to assist low income households with their home energy needs. LIHEAP offers one-time financial assistance to households who require support in meeting their higher heating costs during the winter months. LIHEAP is not intended to pay a household's total energy costs, but is meant to provide assistance with the payments of residential heating costs. Payments are made directly to the households' utility vendor. To be eligible, applicants must have an income less than 150% federal poverty level.

If you are interested in applying for the LIHEAP program, please contact West Des Moines Human Services to arrange an appointment, or you may walk into the office to meet with staff who can complete your application. Call 222-3660 for office hours.

Required documents include:

1. Proof of income for all working adults in the household. These documents would include copies of your check stubs for three months (13 weeks) preceding the date of application, or the most recent calendar year Federal Income Tax Return
2. Documentation of social security numbers for all household members
3. Copy of your most recent heating/electric bill

Thank you!

The Walnut Creek Campus "Homelessness Project Group" held a neighborhood food drive in January. Students collected non-perishable food items for the Food Pantry at West Des Moines Human Services. Over 350 items were collected from households near Walnut Creek Campus. The items were delivered to Human Services by Walnut Creek Campus students. Thank you to all the students, staff and donors who contributed to this effort!



West Des Moines Fire Department

Spring is Almost Here!

We'll soon be working outside at home, tidying up our lawns and gardens. The Yard Waste season begins in West Des Moines on March 31st!

Residents who regularly use multiple yard waste bags may wish to consider the Premium Yard Waste program, utilizing a 96 gallon cart. Those already enrolled will want to renew their sticker for the new season!

More information is available on Metro Waste Authority's website: [Yard Waste - Metro Waste Authority](#), or on the City's website [Yard Waste - City of WDM](#).



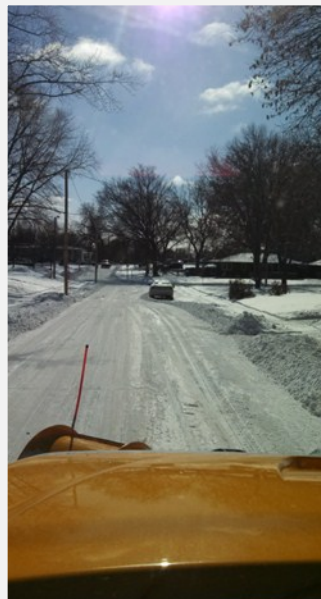
Snowfighting Award

The Salt Institute has awarded the City of WDM Public Works Storage Facility an award for excellence in environmental consciousness and effective management in the storage of winter road salt.



Why a Parking Ban when it snows?

How about a view from a snowplow driver's perspective? This was just a small snow event, but it gives you an idea of how a snowplow operator must slow down and maneuver to move as much snow as possible without hitting a vehicle!

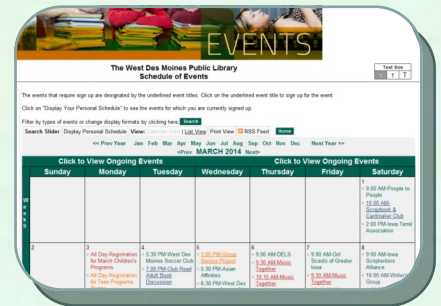


Several opportunities are available with the City of West Des Moines. Check out the [website](#) for more details and how to apply.

Library Programs in March

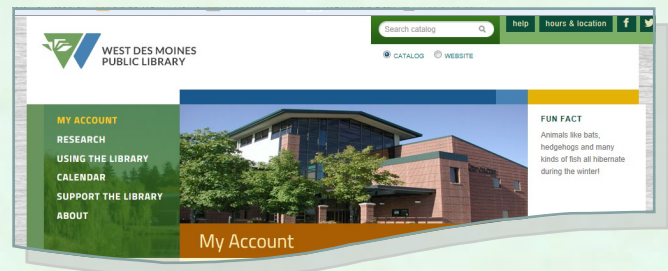
Check the [Calendar](#) and Register Now!

- March 3 Registration open for Children/Teen Programs
- March 4 Club Read Adult Book Club Discussion
- March 8 & 22 Writer's Group
- March 15 Areas Quilters Guild
- March 15 Sahija Yoga
- March 20 Drop-in Family Story Time
- March 22 Hands on Health
- March 27 Teen Craft Night- Melted Crayon Art
- March 28 Holiday Card making- Birthdays
- March 31 Registration Open for Children and Teen Programs

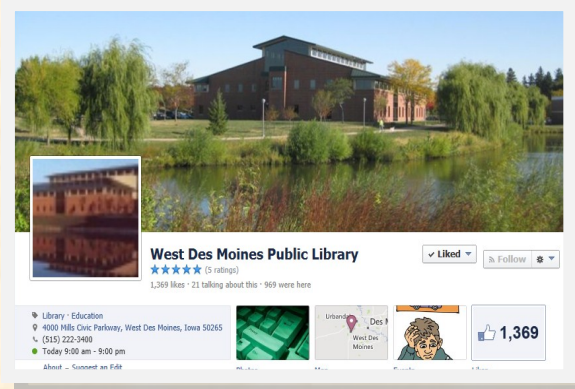


For more information and registration, check the West Des Moines Public Library [Website](#).

Try the new [user tools](#)!



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2014 SOLID WASTE EVENTS FOR WDM CITIZENS

Mark your calendars!

SPRING CLEAN-UP

June 2 - 6

On your regular trash collection day

<u>March 31</u>	<u>Yard Waste Pick-Up begins on normal trash collection day</u>
<u>April 12</u>	<u>Scrap Appliance, Metal Drop-Off & Paper Shredding- 8AM-Noon - West Des Moines Public Works</u>
<u>April 19</u>	<u>Scrap Tire Drop-Off - 7:30 AM-4PM - West Des Moines Public Works</u>
<u>May 22</u>	<u>Nat'l Public Works Week Celebration - 4-7PM Valley Junction Farmer's Market</u>
<u>June 2 - 6</u>	<u>Spring Clean-Up - On your regular trash day</u>
<u>June 28</u>	<u>Hazardous Waste Drop-Off - Valley Stadium 8AM - Noon</u>
<u>Sept. 13</u>	<u>Scrap Appliance & Metal Drop-Off - 8AM-Noon - West Des Moines Public Works</u>
<u>Nov. 29</u>	<u>Yard Waste Pick-Up Ends</u>
<u>Dec 29 - 1/9/15</u>	<u>Winter Yard Waste & Christmas Tree Collection</u>

A number of Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Events will be scheduled in our area by Metro Waste Authority, and will be posted on their website when available. Visit <http://www.whereshoulditgo.com/>

Yard Waste and Spring Cleanup events are available to all West Des Moines residents who are eligible for City solid waste collection.

YourGOV

YourGOV has recently completed updates which should greatly enhance the experience of citizens reporting issues to the City. Users of the current YourGOV mobile apps for Android and iOS will soon be prompted to update their apps. The mobile apps have a new look and feel, and many additional features! Locating and submitting issues will be even simpler!

